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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Ridker et al.  
Serial No.: 10/017,905  
Confirmation No.: 7653  
Filed: December 14, 2001  
For: INFLAMMATORY MARKERS AS TOOLS IN THE DETECTION  
AND PREVENTION OF DIABETES MELLITUS AND AS TOOLS  
TO AID IN THE SELECTION OF AGENTS TO BE USED FOR THE  
PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF DIABETES

Examiner: Patrick J. Nolan  
Art Unit: 1644

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on September 7, 2004.

  
Signature

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows. This Second Preliminary Amendment accompanies a Response to Restriction/Election Requirement enclosed herewith.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this Amendment.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this Amendment.